



State of Idaho

Legislative Services Office

Individual Entity Audit Report

A communication to the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee

**IDAHO FOOD QUALITY
ASSURANCE INSTITUTE**

FY 2007

**Report OP99707
Date Issued: January 22, 2008**

Serving Idaho's Citizen Legislature

FOREWORD

PURPOSE OF AUDIT REPORT

Our fiscal/compliance audit of the Idaho Food Quality Assurance Institute was made to determine:

1. The adequacy and accuracy of the fiscal records and the reliability of the internal control system in order to issue an opinion on the fairness of the Institute's financial statements.
2. The degree of compliance with various State laws, rules, and regulations affecting the fiscal operations of the Institute.
3. The areas in the financial operations that could be improved.

SCOPE OF AUDIT

We examined the financial operations of the Institute for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2007.

The audit was performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the fiscal/compliance section of the *Government Auditing Standards* published by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO).

Information contained in this report was gathered from accounting and administrative records. We also interviewed Institute personnel.

AUDIT AUTHORIZATION

Reported to the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee as directed by the Legislative Council of the Idaho Legislature, authorized by Idaho Code, Section 67-429.

ASSIGNED STAFF

Maresa Blessinger, Staff Auditor

ADMINISTRATION AND TECHNICAL REVIEW

Don H. Berg, CGFM, Manager, Legislative Audits Division
Eugene Sparks, CPA, CGFM, Managing Auditor

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary	1
Agency Response	3
Independent Auditor's Report – Unqualified Opinion on Basic Financial Statements	4
Statement of Net Assets	6
Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets	7
Statement of Cash Flows	8
Notes to Financial Statements	9
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	14
Appendix	16



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY LEGISLATIVE AUDITS

IDAHO FOOD QUALITY ASSURANCE INSTITUTE

PURPOSE AND SCOPE – We have audited the financial statements of the Idaho Food Quality Assurance Institute for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. The purpose of our audit is to determine whether the Institute's financial statements are materially accurate and reliable, and that it complied with laws and regulations affecting fiscal operations.

CONCLUSION – We conclude that the Institute's financial statements are materially accurate and reliable, and fiscal operations materially comply with related laws and regulations. As a result, we issued an unqualified opinion on the Institute's financial statements.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS – There are no findings and recommendations in this report or the prior report. However, we did suggest minor internal control improvements.

AGENCY RESPONSE – The management of Idaho Food Quality Assurance Institute has reviewed the report and is in general agreement with its contents.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY – The Institute is funded by a service agreement with the Idaho Potato Commission to provide residue analyses of potato samples, certifications of results for each sample analyzed, and a federal grant for the potato nematode. In fiscal year 2007, the Institute received a State General Fund appropriation of \$80,000, plus prior year unspent appropriation. A summary of the financial activity for fiscal year 2007 follows.

IDAHO FOOD QUALITY ASSURANCE INSTITUTE - FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

	<u>Enterprise Fund</u>
ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$531,321
Receivables	4,460
Total Assets	<u>\$535,781</u>
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$2,246
Payroll and Benefits Payable	13,857
Compensated Absences	12,706
Total Liabilities	<u>\$28,809</u>
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	<u>\$506,972</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$506,972</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$535,781</u>

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

OPERATING REVENUES	
Service Agreements	\$167,500
Analysis Fees	<u>863,159</u>
Total Operating Revenues	<u>\$1,030,659</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES	
Personnel Costs	\$475,953
Laboratory Expenses	184,779
Travel	9,307
Audit	<u>3,000</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$673,039</u>
Operating Income (Loss)	\$357,620
NON-OPERATING REVENUES	
General Fund Appropriation	<u>81,914</u>
Total Non-Operating Revenues	<u>\$81,914</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$439,534
Beginning Net Assets	<u>67,438</u>
Ending Net Assets	<u><u>\$506,972</u></u>

OTHER ISSUES. We discussed other matters with the Institute which, if addressed, would improve internal control, compliance, and efficiency.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Idaho Food Quality Assurance Institute and the Idaho Legislature and is not intended to be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We appreciate the cooperation and assistance given to us by Celia Gould, Director of the Department of Agriculture, Mike Becerra, Lab Manager, and their staff during this audit.

QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS AUDIT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

Don H. Berg, CGFM, Manager, Legislative Audits Division

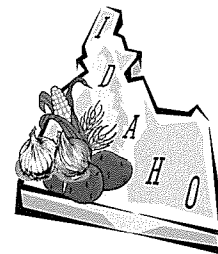
Eugene Sparks, CPA, CGFM, Managing Auditor

Report OP99707

AGENCY RESPONSE

Idaho Food Quality Assurance Laboratory

Michael Becerra
315 Falls Ave.
P.O. Box 1238
Twin Falls, ID 83303
Phone: (208) 732-5325
Fax: (208) 732-5327
mbecerra@agri.idaho.gov



December 14, 2007

Mr. Don Berg
Legislative Services Office
Statehouse
PO Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0054

Dear Mr. Berg:

Finding 1 of the LSO audit suggests that we account for receivables when the test was performed, rather than when the sample was received. Effective immediately, we will comply with that suggestion and account for receivables on the billing date-which is when the service is actually completed and reported.

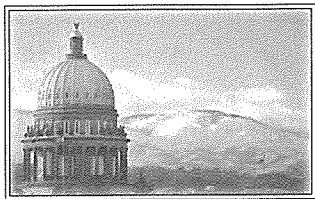
Finding 2 suggests that we create a mechanism to deposit payments immediately and locally. Effective immediately, we will deposit all payments received with a local bank utilizing treasurer's deposit slips within 24 hours of receipt.

We appreciate the work of your office and would like to recognize the excellent work and congeniality of auditor Maresa Blessinger.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Becerra
Lab Manager

Darrell Bolz
Chairman, Idaho Food Quality Assurance Institute



Legislative Services Office Idaho State Legislature

Serving Idaho's Citizen Legislature

Jeff Youtz
Director

January 8, 2008

Unqualified Opinion on
Basic Financial Statements

Independent Auditor's Report

Celia Gould, Director
Department of Agriculture
2270 Old Penitentiary Road
Boise, ID 83701

Dear Ms. Gould:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the special revenue fund of the Idaho Food Quality Institute as of and for the year ended June 30, 2007, which collectively comprise the Institute's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Institute's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the special revenue fund of the Institute as of June 30, 2007, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 8, 2008, on our consideration of the Institute's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered when assessing the results of our audit.

Mike Nugent, Manager
Research & Legislation

Cathy Holland-Smith, Manager
Budget & Policy Analysis

Don H. Berg, Manager
Legislative Audits

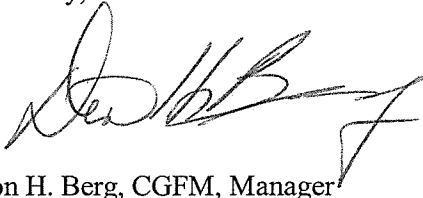
Glenn Harris, Manager
Information Technology

Statehouse, P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0054

Tel: 208-334-2475
www.legislature.idaho.gov

The Institute has not presented the Management Discussion and Analysis that the Governmental Accounting Standards Board has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the basic financial statements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don H. Berg", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Don H. Berg, CGFM, Manager
Legislative Audits Division

cc: Mike Beccera, Lab Manager
Idaho Food Quality Assurance Institute

STATE OF IDAHO
IDAHO FOOD QUALITY ASSURANCE INSTITUTE
STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
AS OF JUNE 30, 2007

	Enterprise Fund
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$531,321
Receivables	4,460
Total Assets	<u>\$535,781</u>
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$2,246
Payroll and Benefits Payable	13,857
Compensated Absences	12,706
Total Liabilities	<u>\$28,809</u>
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	<u>\$506,972</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$506,972</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$535,781</u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement

STATE OF IDAHO
IDAHO FOOD QUALITY ASSURANCE INSTITUTE
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2007

	Enterprise Fund
OPERATING REVENUES	
Service Agreements	\$167,500
Analysis Fees	863,159
Total Operating Revenues	<u>\$1,030,659</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES	
Personnel Costs	\$475,953
Laboratory Expenses	184,779
Travel	9,307
Legislative Audit	3,000
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$673,039</u>
Operating Income (Loss)	\$357,620
NON-OPERATING REVENUES	
General Fund Appropriation	81,914
Total Non-Operating Revenues	<u>\$81,914</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$439,534
Beginning Net Assets	67,438
Ending Net Assets	<u><u>\$506,972</u></u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement

STATE OF IDAHO
IDAHO FOOD QUALITY ASSURANCE INSTITUTE
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2007

	Enterprise Fund
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Cash Received from Service Agreements	\$167,500
Cash Received from Customers	863,990
Cash Payments for Personnel Costs	(461,476)
Cash Payments for Laboratory Expenses	(187,730)
Cash Payments for Audit	(3,000)
Cash Payments for Travel	(9,308)
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities	<u>\$369,976</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM NON-CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES	
Cash Received from General Fund Appropriation	<u>\$81,914</u>
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Non-Capital Financing Activities	<u>\$81,914</u>
 Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	 \$451,890
Cash and Cash Equivalents Beginning of Year	<u>79,431</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents End of Year	<u><u>\$531,321</u></u>
 RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH PROVIDED (USED) BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Operating income (loss)	\$357,620
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to	
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities	
Changes in Accounts Receivable	830
Changes in Accounts Payable	(2,951)
Changes in Accrued Payroll and Benefits	8,503
Changes in Compensated Absences	5,974
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities:	<u><u>\$369,976</u></u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE #1

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

FINANCIAL REPORTING ENTITY

The financial statements of the Idaho Food Quality Assurance Institute have been prepared in conformity with United States generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The Institute's more significant accounting policies are described below.

BASIS OF PRESENTATION

Enterprise Fund Financial Statements

Enterprise funds, in accordance with GASB *Statement No. 20, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Proprietary Funds and Other Governmental Entities That Use Proprietary Fund Accounting*, are required to apply applicable GASB pronouncements, as well as the following pronouncements issued on or before November 30, 1989, unless those pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements: *Statements and Interpretations of Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB)*, *Accounting Principles Board Opinions*, or *Account Research Bulletins of the Committee on Accounting Procedures*. In addition, an enterprise activity may apply all FASB statements and interpretations issued after November 30, 1989, except those that conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The Institute has elected not to follow FASB pronouncements issued after November 30, 1989.

The Institute is a government entity engaged in business-type activities. The statement of net assets, the statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net assets, and the statement of cash flows display information about the Institute's financial operations for the year ended June 30, 2007. These statements include all financial activity of the Institute. These activities are financed by fees charged for food quality assurance services. The Institute also receives an appropriation from the State General Fund.

Operating and non-operating revenues and expenses are presented separately on the operating statements. Operating transactions occur if they directly result from the fees charged for food quality assurance services, or are otherwise directly related to the principal and usual activity of the fund. All other revenues and expenses are reported as non-operating revenue.

MEASUREMENT FOCUS AND BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The business-type (Enterprise Fund) financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. All assets and liabilities are presented on the statement of net assets. Revenues are recorded when earned, and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flow takes place.

ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND NET ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Institute's primary governmental fund cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, and are on deposit with the State Treasurer's Office.

Accounts Receivable

The accounts receivable come from fees charged for food quality assurance services.

Accounts Payable

Payables consist primarily of short-term vendor obligations.

Other Liabilities

Other liabilities consist of payroll and benefits payable, including compensated absences payable, that is vacation and compensatory time earned by employees but not paid.

CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets are machinery and equipment, reported at cost less any accumulated depreciation. Only assets with a value of \$5,000 or greater are capitalized. Depreciation is recorded using the straight-line method over a three-year useful life.

	Capital <u>Assets</u>	Accumulated <u>Depreciation</u>	Capital Assets Being Depreciated <u>Net</u>
Beginning Balance at July 1, 2006	\$338,912	(\$338,912)	\$0
Additions	0	(0)	(0)
Deletions	0	0	0
Ending Balance at June 30, 2007	<u>\$338,912</u>	<u>(\$338,912)</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Maintenance and repairs are charged to operations as incurred. When capital assets are disposed of, accumulated depreciation is deducted from the original cost, and any gain or loss arising from its disposal is credited or charged to operations.

BUDGETS

As of July 1, 2006 spending authority for the Food Quality Assurance Lab is derived through an appropriation within Department of Agriculture's Plant Industries Division, specifically fund 0402.

OTHER

Refunds received are credited to the original expenditure classification.

Accounts payable are vendor-payment transactions occurring after the June 30 fiscal year end for goods and services received by the Institute prior to June 30.

NOTE #2

CASH IN TREASURY

The Institute participates in the Treasurer's Pooled Idle Fund. The pool is an internal investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office on behalf of participants. Money in the pool that is not needed to meet the State's immediate operating obligations is invested in accordance with Idaho Code, Sections 67-1210 and 67-1210A. Participation in the pool is on an involuntary basis.

CREDIT RISK

State law limits investments to those listed in the Idaho Code sections identified above. The Treasurer has an informal policy to comply with State laws, thus limiting credit risk.

The Treasurer's Pooled Idle Fund is an unrated internal investment pool. The Institute has total deposits of \$531,321 in the pool. Deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market.

INTEREST RATE RISK

The Treasurer has an informal investment policy that limits certain investment maturities as a means of managing exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

NOTE #3

COMPENSATED ABSENCES

The State of Idaho employee benefits include vacation and sick leave allowances. Overtime may be earned under provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act and State law. Overtime is commonly referred to as "compensatory time" or "comp time," since employees may take time off for the accrued overtime. For

purposes of earning and accruing overtime there are three general classes of employees:

1. Those who earn overtime at 1.5 times regular pay rates and may be paid for the overtime or take time off.
2. Those who earn overtime at the same rate as regular pay rates and may only take time off.
3. Those ineligible for overtime.

All vacation and compensatory pay is accrued in the financial statements when the benefit is incurred.

Upon retirement, 50% of the unused sick leave value, not to exceed 600 hours, is used by PERSI to purchase supplemental health insurance for the retiree.

The changes to compensated absences are:

	<u>FY 2007</u>
Beginning Balance at July 1, 2006	6,732
Increases	22,386
Decreases	<u>(16,412)</u>
Ending Balance at June 30, 2007	<u>\$12,706</u>

Based on past experience, the Institute uses all compensated absences within one year.

NOTE #4

PENSION PLAN

The Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho (PERSI), a cost-sharing multiple-employer public retirement system, was created by the Idaho State Legislature. It is a defined benefit plan requiring that both the member and the employer contribute. Designed as a mandatory system for eligible State employees, the legislation provided for political subdivisions to participate by contractual agreement with PERSI. Financial reports for the plan are available from PERSI.

After five years of credited service, members become fully vested in retirement benefits earned to date. Members are eligible for retirement benefits once they reach the age specified by their employment classification. For each year of credited service, the annual service retirement allowance is 2.0% or 2.3% (depending on employee classification) of the average monthly salary for the highest consecutive 42 months.

For the year ended June 30, 2007, the required contribution rates, as determined by PERSI, were 6.23% for employees and 10.39% for the State.

Optional Retirement Plan

Exempt employees at the Idaho Food Quality Assurance Institute are members of the Optional Retirement Plan (ORP), a defined contribution plan, for faculty and exempt employees. The

employee contribution requirement for the ORP is based on a percentage of total payroll. Employer contributions are determined by the State of Idaho.

New faculty and exempt employees hired July 1, 1990 or thereafter automatically enroll in the ORP and select their vendor option. Faculty and exempt employees, hired before July 1, 1990, had a one-time opportunity to enroll in the ORP. Vendor options include Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association – College Retirement Equities Fund (TIAA-CREF) and Variable Annuity Life Insurance Company (VALIC).

Participants are immediately fully vested in the ORP. Retirement benefits are available either as a lump sum or any portion thereof upon attaining 55 years of age (62 years of age for the University of Idaho). The plan is administered by TIAA-CREF, and it can be contacted at 800-842-2009.

The Institute's contributions required and paid were:

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
PERSI	\$9,601	\$15,635	\$27,897
ORP	<u>5,072</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	<u>\$14,673</u>	<u>\$15,635</u>	<u>\$27,897</u>

In fiscal year 2007, all employees were on PERSI.

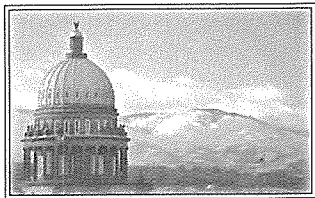
NOTE #5

RELATED-PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Institute has a joint agreement with the State Department of Agriculture and the Idaho Potato Commission to participate in the funding and operation of the laboratory.

As part of the participation agreement, the Institute's laboratory building in Twin Falls, including original laboratory equipment, is on a 10-year lease for \$1.00 from the State Department of Agriculture. The lease will terminate September 1, 2007. The land that the building sits on is the property of the College of Southern Idaho and has been leased to the State Department of Agriculture for \$1.00. This land lease will terminate December 31, 2026.

Beginning in fiscal year 2006, the Institute consolidated its operations under the State Department of Agriculture. The Department of Agriculture processes the day-to-day transactions for the Institute and oversees the day-to-day operations of the laboratory.



Legislative Services Office Idaho State Legislature

Serving Idaho's Citizen Legislature

Jeff Youtz
Director

January 8, 2008

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control
Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and
Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial
Statements Performed in Accordance
With Government Auditing Standards

Celia Gould, Director
Department of Agriculture
2270 Old Penitentiary Road
Boise, ID 83701

Dear Ms. Gould:

We have audited the financial statements of the Idaho Food Quality Assurance institute as of and for the year ended June 30, 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated January 8, 2008. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Institute's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control report that might be material weaknesses. However, we identified certain conditions in the internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency that adversely affects the Institute's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the Institute's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the Institute's internal control.

Mike Nugent, Manager
Research & Legislation

Cathy Holland-Smith, Manager
Budget & Policy Analysis

Don H. Berg, Manager
Legislative Audits

Glenn Harris, Manager
Information Technology

Statehouse, P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0054

Tel: 208-334-2475
www.legislature.idaho.gov

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the Institute's internal control. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also considered material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

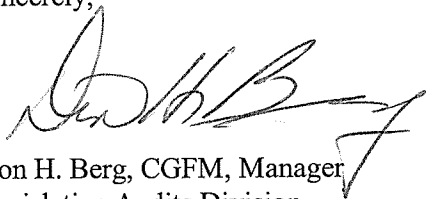
Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Institute's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We noted certain other matters that we have reported to the management of the Institute in a separate letter.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the State of Idaho and the Idaho Food Quality Assurance Institute and is not intended to be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Don H. Berg", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Don H. Berg, CGFM, Manager
Legislative Audits Division

cc: Mike Beccera, Lab Manager
Idaho Food Quality Assurance Institute

APPENDIX

HISTORY

The Idaho Food Quality Assurance Institute offers food quality assurance services to Idaho producers, governmental agencies, agricultural groups, processors, and consumers. The Institute's purpose is to provide ongoing quality assurance testing for Idaho agricultural commodities by analyzing and documenting food safety practices of Idaho producers. Some of the tests performed include raw commodity agricultural chemical residue testing, processed foods agrochemical residue testing, regulatory enforcement testing, crop damage and environmental assessment from over spray carryover, export commodity residue testing, crop damage, and federal agrochemical registration support data.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The Idaho Food Quality Assurance Institute was created by Idaho Code, Section 67-8301. The Institute is an independent public body corporate and politic.

PURPOSE

Responsibilities of the Institute include:

- To provide an ongoing quality assurance testing program for Idaho agricultural commodities by analyzing and documenting the food safety practices of Idaho producers.
- To provide for the management and operation of the Quality Assurance Laboratory in Twin Falls, Idaho.
- To establish fees for testing and analysis of agricultural commodities and for any other services to be provided to benefit agricultural commodity producers by the laboratory or Institute.
- To provide for the certification of testing results.

ORGANIZATION

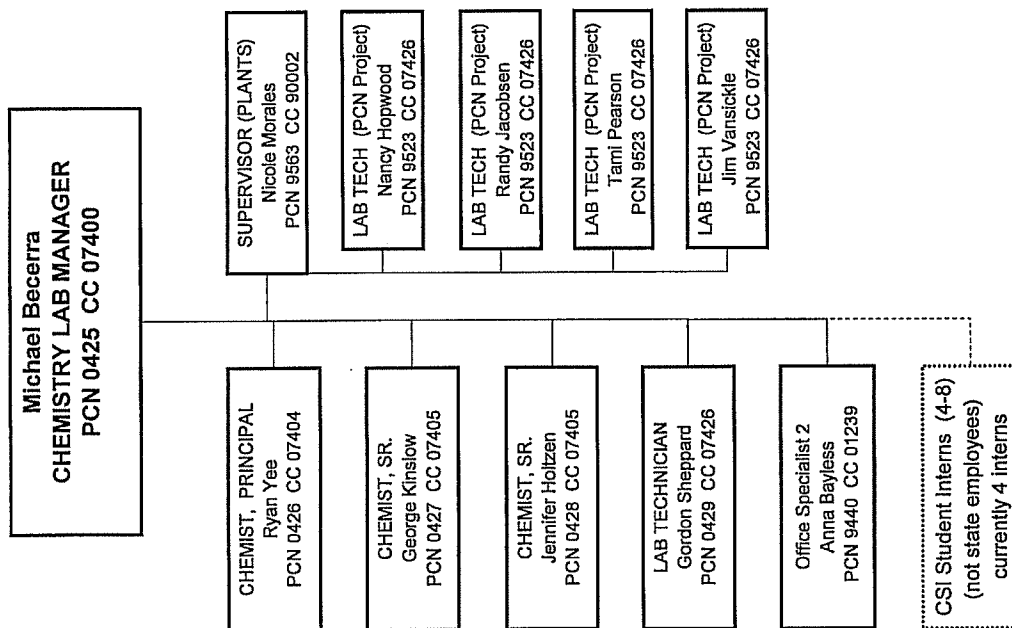
Idaho Food Quality Assurance Commissioners

The Idaho Food Quality Assurance Institute Commissioners form a rule-making and advisory body. Its ten members are appointed by the Governor.

Idaho Food Quality Assurance Laboratory

The Idaho Department of Agriculture oversees the day-to-day operations of the laboratory, hires laboratory employees, provides accounting services, and promotes appropriate laboratory practices.

IDAHO FOOD QUALITY ASSURANCE LABORATORY



Approved: Theresa Bayless

Date: 11-14-07